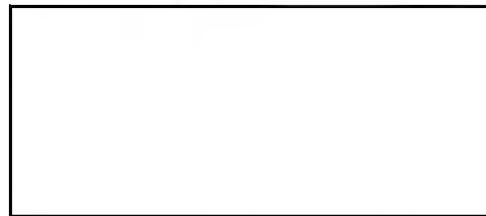


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Warsaw Pact: Leaders of the Warsaw Pact states reportedly will meet soon in Moscow, probably to discuss European security matters.

There are conflicting reports concerning the timing, reasons, and agenda. Western news services reported yesterday that the meeting will open Monday. Soviet Ambassador to Bonn Tsarapkin was suddenly recalled to Moscow on 20 November to take part in preparations for the meeting. The Romanian ambassador in Bulgaria expects the meeting to take place in early December, however.

A West German official in Prague, citing statements by Eastern European diplomats, stated that the East Germans requested the meeting in order to discuss unification of bloc policy toward West Germany. The Romanian ambassador in Sofia, however, characterized the meeting as a follow-up to the earlier meeting of foreign ministers in Prague. He said that the pact leaders will treat Germany and Berlin only as part of a broader discussion of European security matters.

In any event, Pankow, which has been disturbed by its allies' responsiveness to the Brandt government, will use the meeting to try to slow down movement in their negotiations with Bonn and to protect East German interests. In these respects, the East Germans probably will not find the other Eastern Europeans, especially the Poles, receptive to their approaches.

The Soviets have been relatively forthcoming recently toward Bonn. The Eastern European states have been told that they too may negotiate certain issues with the West Germans. Unless Moscow shifts tactics, it appears doubtful that Pankow will be able to dissuade its allies from following their own schedules for moving closer toward an accommodation with Bonn.

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Philippines-Malaysia: The two countries may use a regional meeting in mid-December to discuss restoring consular relations

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Diplomatic relations were suspended over a year ago because of Manila's insistence on challenging Malaysia's sovereignty over the state of Sabah. A Malaysian condition that any Philippine representatives be restricted to the Kuala Lumpur area makes an early consular agreement unlikely.

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